IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Serial No.: Filing Date: /

Group Art Unit

Examiner:

For:

Richard B. Streeter

10/022,951

MAPPARATUS AND METHOD FOR REPLACING

AORTIC VALVE

3731

Bradford C. Pantuck

Attorney's Docket No.: VIA-15

FEB 2 2 2005

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PETITION FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND

Applicant hereby petitions for a two (2) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding OFFICIAL ACTION mailed September 17, 2004 with respect to the above-identified patent application, thereby extending the time for response from December 17, 2004 to February 17, 2005.

Please charge \$225.00 to Deposit Account No. 16-0221 to cover the cost of the petition fee. This petition fee has been calculated on the basis of a Small Entity status.

In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. \underline{A} duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed for the convenience of the Office.

Thank you.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

February 17, 2005

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

Scott R. Foster

INME OF ATTORNEY

February 17, 2005

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

DP2/VIA15.EXT

Respectfully submitted,

Scott R. Foster

Registration No. 20,570 Pandiscio & Pandiscio 470 Totten Pond Road Waltham, MA 02451-1914

Tel. No. (781) 290-0060

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